

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ : C07D 205/08	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 00/34240
		(43) International Publication Date: 15 June 2000 (15.06.00)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/27914
(22) International Filing Date: 6 December 1999 (06.12.99)
(30) Priority Data:
09/206,931 7 December 1998 (07.12.98) US

(71) Applicant: SCHERING CORPORATION [US/US]; 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033-0530 (US).

(72) Inventors: THIRUVENGADAM, Tiruvettipuram, K.; 17 Village Road, Kendall Park, NJ 08824 (US). FU, Xiaoyong; 18 Augusta Avenue, Edison, NJ 08820 (US). TANN, Chou-Hong; 30 Pinewood Crescent, Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 (US). McALLISTER, Timothy, L.; Apartment 3L, 1 Primrose Lane, Fords, NJ 08863 (US). CHIU, John, S.; 12 Ferndale Drive, Parsippany, NJ 07054 (US). COLON, Cesar; 849 Appar Terrace, Rahway, NJ 07065 (US).

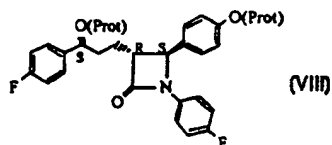
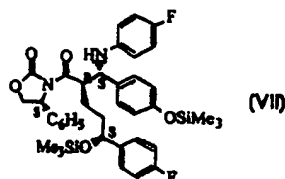
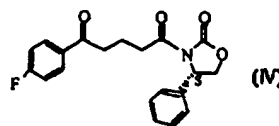
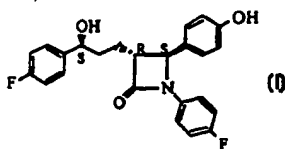
(74) Agents: MAGATTI, Anita, W. et al.; Schering-Plough Corporation, Patent Dept., K-6-1 1990, 2000 Galloping Hill Road, Kenilworth, NJ 07033-0530 (US).

(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KG, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF AZETIDINONES



(57) Abstract

This invention provides a process for preparing the hypocholesterolemic compound (I) comprising: (a) reacting p-fluorobenzoylbutyric acid with pivaloyl chloride and acylating the product with a chiral auxiliary to obtain a ketone of formula (IV); (b) reducing the ketone of formula (IV) in the presence of a chiral catalyst to an alcohol; (c) reacting the chiral alcohol of step (b), an imine and a silyl protecting agent, then condensing the protected compounds to obtain a β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula (VII); (d) cyclizing the β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula (VII) with a silylating agent and a fluoride ion catalyst to obtain a protected lactam of formula (VIII); and removing the protecting groups. The intermediates of formulas (VII and VIII) are also claimed.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece	ML	Mali	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	MN	Mongolia	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MR	Mauritania	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MW	Malawi	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MX	Mexico	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	NE	Niger	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NL	Netherlands	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NO	Norway	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NZ	New Zealand	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CM	Cameroon	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CN	China	KZ	Kazakhstan	RO	Romania		
CU	Cuba	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
CZ	Czech Republic	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

5

PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF AZETIDINONES

Background

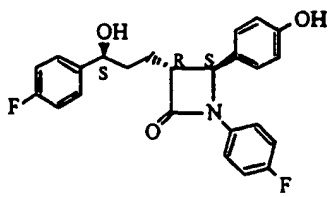
10 This invention relates to an enantioselective process for producing hydroxy-alkyl substituted azetidinones useful as hypocholesterolemic agents, in particular for preparing 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3(R)-[3(S)-hydroxy-3-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4(S)-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-azetidinone, claimed in US 5,767,115.

15 Processes for preparing the corresponding azetidinone without the 3-hydroxy substituent are claimed in US 5,728,827 and US 5,561,227. Other processes for preparing 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3(R)-[3(S)-hydroxy-3-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4(S)-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-azetidinone are disclosed in US 5,631,365 and US 5,739,321.

20

Summary of the Invention

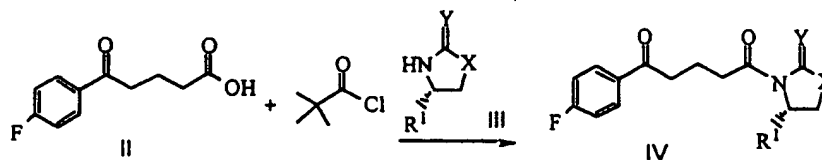
This invention provides an improved simple, high-yielding process using neutral conditions for producing the hypocholesterolemic azetidinone having the formula I



25

comprising:

(a) reacting p-fluorobenzoylbutyric acid of formula II with pivaloyl chloride and acylating the product with a chiral auxiliary of formula III to obtain a ketone of formula IV:

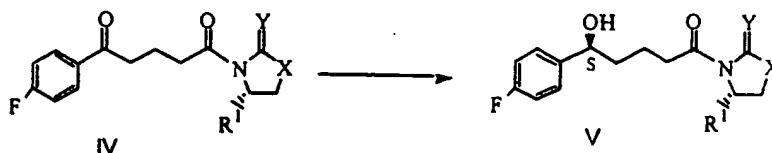


30

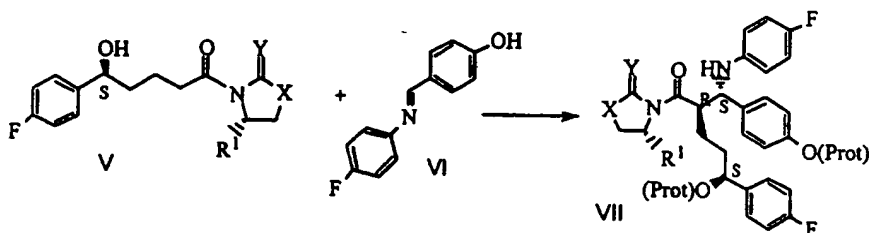
- 2 -

wherein X is -O-, -S- or -N(C₁-C₆ alkyl); Y is =O or =S; and R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, substituted phenyl, substituted naphthyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl or benzyl, wherein the substituents on phenyl and naphthyl are 1-3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl and benzyl;

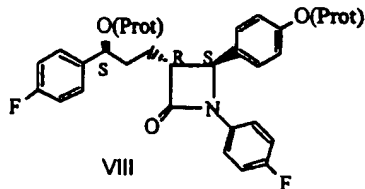
(b) reducing the ketone of formula IV in the presence of a chiral catalyst to an alcohol of formula V:



(c) reacting the chiral alcohol of formula V, an imine of formula VI and a silyl protecting agent, then condensing the silyl-protected compounds to obtain a β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII, wherein Prot is a silyl protecting group:



(d) cyclizing the β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII with
 (i) a silylating agent and a fluoride ion catalyzing agent;
 (ii) a silylating agent and a quaternary ammonium salt of a chiral auxiliary of formula III; or
 (iii) a strong non-nucleophilic base;
 to obtain the compound of formula VIII:



(e) removing the silyl protecting groups.

Also claimed are the process comprising steps (c), (d) and (e); the process of steps (d) and (e); the process of step (c); and the process of step (d), particularly the cyclization described in step (d)(i).

- 3 -

In still another aspect, the intermediates of formula VII and VIII are claimed.

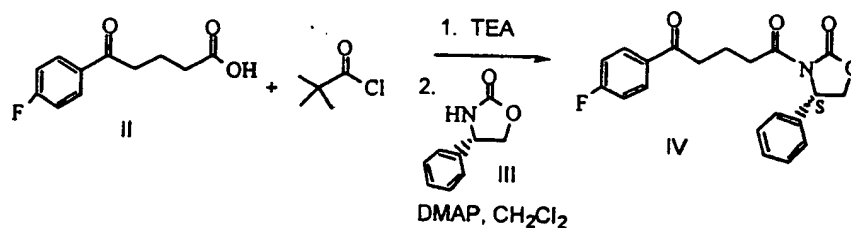
- 5 The process described above is directed to the preparation of the 1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3(R)-[3(S)-hydroxy-3-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4(S)-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-2-azetidinone enantiomer, but it will be recognized that by substitution of the appropriate starting materials, other enantiomers can be prepared.

Detailed Description

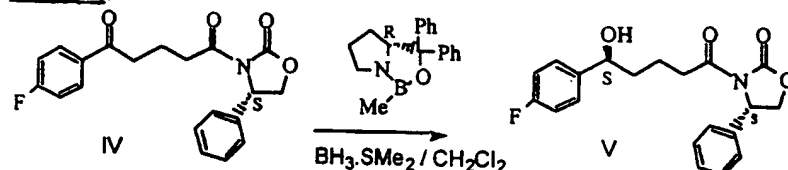
- 10 The process of this invention is a high throughput process which provides the desired azetidinone in high overall yield in a short time cycle (i.e., about two weeks).

Preferred reaction conditions are shown in the following scheme:

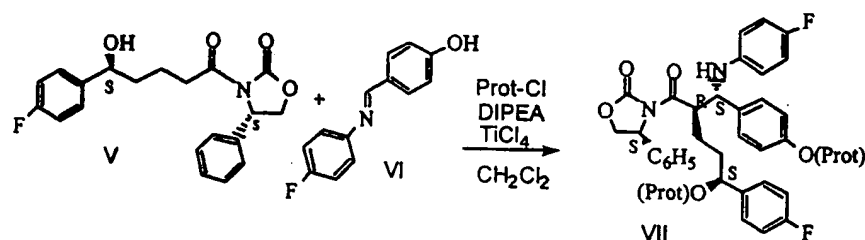
Step (a):



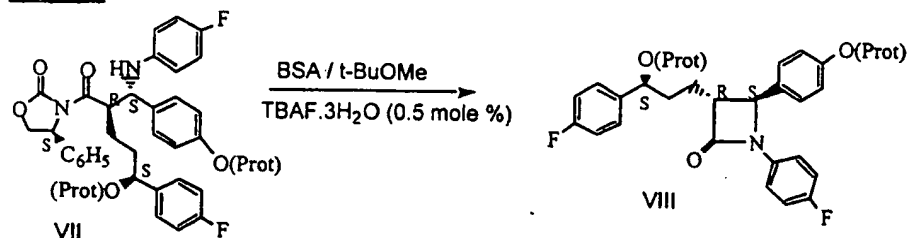
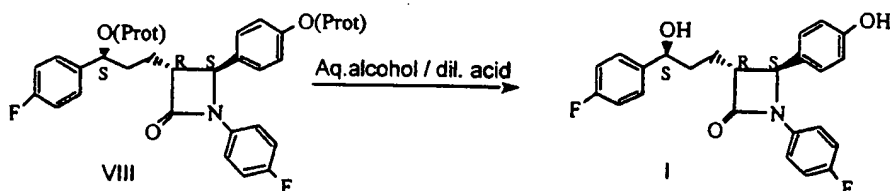
Step (b):



Step (c):

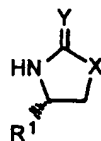


- 4 -

Step (d)Step (e):

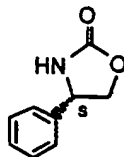
- 5 In the reaction scheme, TEA is triethylamine, DMAP is 4-dimethyl-amino pyridine, DIPEA is diisopropylethylamine, BSA is bistrimethylsilyl acetamide, TBAF is tetra n-butyl-ammonium fluoride, t-BuOMe is t-butyl methyl ether and Prot is a silyl protecting group as defined below.

- 10 Starting materials of formulas II and III are known in the art, and the procedure of step (a) for reacting compounds of formula II and III is known in the art: Preferably, the chiral auxiliary of formula III is exemplified by the formula :



wherein Y is =O, X is -O- and R¹ is phenyl, benzyl or C₁-C₆ alkyl. A

preferred chiral auxiliary is



- 15 See the example below for typical reaction conditions.

Similarly, the procedure of step (b) for reducing a ketone to a hydroxy group using a borane reducing agent such as BH₃·S(CH₃)₂ in the presence of a chiral catalyst such as (R)-tetrahydro-1-methyl-3,3-diphenyl-1H,3H-pyrrolo(1,2-c)(1,3,2) oxaza-borolidine is known: see U.S.

- 20 5,767,115.

- 5 -

In step (c), the chiral alcohol, V, and the imine, VI, are protected with a suitable hydroxy-protecting group, preferably a silyl protecting group such as that derived from chlorotrimethylsilane (TMSCl) or t-butyldimethyl-silyl chloride (TBDMSCl). The alcohol (1 equivalent) and imine (preferably 1-3 equivalents) are added to an anhydrous solvent such as CH₂Cl₂, the reaction mixture is cooled to -10° to 15°C, a tertiary amine base such as DIPEA is added (preferably 2-4 equivalents), and sufficient silylating reagent to react with both the alcohol and the imine is added (e.g., 2-4 equivalents). After silylation is complete, the alcohol and imine are condensed by reacting at -20° to -35°C with at least 1 equivalent of a Lewis acid such as TiCl₄, in the presence of a tertiary amine base (preferably 1-3 equivalents) such as DIPEA for 2-4 hours. The reaction is quenched, for example by treating with an acid such as glacial acetic acid followed by aqueous tartaric acid solution; the resultant product is extracted and crystallized using conventional procedures.

Silylation in step (d) is effected by reacting the compound of formula VII with a silyl-enol ether silylating agent such as bistrimethylsilyl acetamide (BSA), N-methyl-O-trimethylsilyl acetamide or iso-propenyloxy trimethylsilane, preferably BSA, in a suitable inert organic solvent at -20°C to 110°C, preferably at about 0°C to 25°C. The reaction is preferably carried out in a dry, inert atmosphere, e.g., the solvent is dried, typically with molecular sieves, and the reaction is carried out under nitrogen.

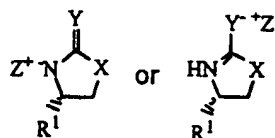
The order of addition of the components of this process in Step (d) is not critical to the preparation of the azetidinone product. For example, the β-(substituted-amino)amide can first be reacted with the silylating agent and then reacted with the cyclizing agent, or the compound of formula VII can be added to a mixture of the silylating agent and the cyclizing agent. When the silylation and cyclization are done sequentially, i.e., the silylating agent is reacted with the starting material first, the silylation reaction can be allowed to continue for up to about two hours, but preferably the cyclization step is carried out immediately after silylation, or the silylating agent and the cyclizing agent are added simultaneously.

The source of the fluoride ion used to catalyze the intra-molecular cyclization of the compound of formula VII is typically a quaternary alkyl-, aryl-alkyl- or arylalkyl-alkylammonium fluoride salt or a hydrate thereof, or a mixture thereof, or is an alkali metal fluoride salt or a hydrate thereof, such as cesium fluoride or potassium fluoride. Examples of arylalkyl-

alkylammonium groups are benzyltriethyl-ammonium and benzyltrimethyl-ammonium; examples of arylalkyl-ammonium are phenyltriethyl-ammonium and phenyltrimethyl-ammonium; typical alkylammonium groups contain alkyl groups of 1-6 carbon atoms, e.g., tetra n-butyl-ammonium.

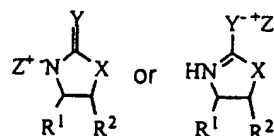
- 5 When a hydrated quaternary ammonium fluoride salt is used, the reagent is added in a catalytic amount, i.e., about 0.1 to about 20 mole percent, preferably about 0.5 to 5 mole percent, and when an anhydrous quaternary ammonium fluoride salt is used, it can be added in a catalytic up to a stoichiometric amount. When an alkali metal fluoride salt is used, it is
- 10 added in catalytic amount up to a stoichiometric amount compared to the starting β -amino compound, depending on the solubility of the reagent in the solvent used (higher solubility requires less reagent). If added to the reaction mixture after the silylation agent, the fluoride reagent is added directly to the reaction mixture resulting from silylation, and is reacted at
- 15 about 0°C to 110°C, preferably about 0°C to 50°C, for about 0.5 to about 6 hours, preferably about 2 hours. When the silylation reagent and the fluoride reagent are added simultaneously, the reaction is conducted under similar conditions. A preferred fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent is tetrabutylammonium fluoride trihydrate.

- 20 Alternatively, the cyclization of step (d) can be effected by the addition of a monovalent quaternary ammonium salt of the chiral auxiliary of formula III used in step (a), i.e., a compound of the formula



- 25 wherein X, Y and R¹ are as defined above and Z is a quaternary ammonium cation selected from the group consisting of arylalkyl-alkylammonium, aryl-alkylammonium and tetraalkylammonium, or a mixture thereof, and alkali metals. Examples of arylalkyl-alkylammonium are benzyltriethylammonium and benzyl-trimethylammonium; examples of aryl-alkylammonium are phenyltriethylammonium and phenyltrimethyl-ammonium; typical
- 30 tetraalkylammonium groups contain alkyl groups of 1-6 carbon atoms, e.g., tetra n-butylammonium; and typical alkali metals are sodium, potassium, cesium and lithium. Other chiral or non-chiral auxiliaries can also be used to cyclize the β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII, for example compounds of the formulas

- 7 -



wherein X, Y, Z and R¹ are as defined above and R² is defined as for R¹ can also be used. The the β-(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII is treated with a silylating agent as described above, with the salt of the chiral (or non-chiral) auxiliary being added either simultaneously or sequentially in a catalytic or stoichiometric amount compared to the β-amino compound under conditions similar to the reaction with fluoride ion.

A third method for cyclizing the β-(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII comprises using a strong non-nucleophilic base. A strong non-nucleophilic base is defined herein as a non-aqueous base which does not act as a nucleophile by virtue of its steric bulk, e.g., sodium bistrimethylsilylamide or lithium diisopropylamide. The base is reacted with the the β-amino compound in an inert organic solvent such as CH₂Cl₂ at a temperature of about -100°C to 10 °C.

Removal of the protecting groups after cyclization is carried out using conventional methods, for example by treatment with a dilute acid such as sulfuric acid in a solvent such as an alcohol, e.g., isopropanol.

Intermediates IV and VII can be isolated during the reaction process, or the reaction can proceed to formation of the compound of formula I before the product is isolated.

The azetidinone resulting from the cyclization can be purified by appropriate standard procedures such as crystallization or column chromatography.

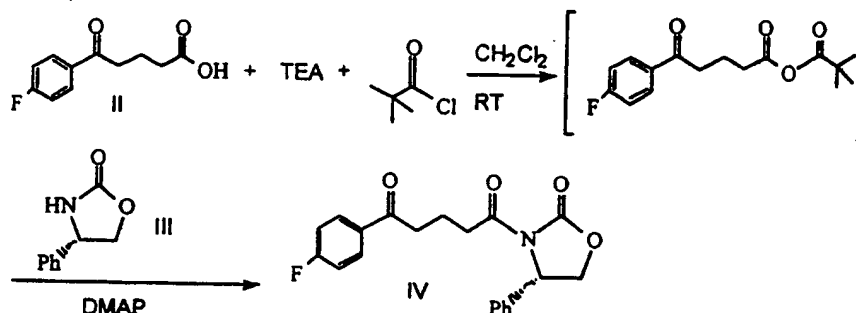
The term "suitable inert organic solvent" as used above means any organic solvent or combination of solvents that is unreactive in the reaction being conducted and is a solvent for the reactants. Typical suitable solvents are halogenated compounds such as CH₂Cl₂; heterocyclic compounds such as tetrahydrofuran (THF); DMSO; dimethylformamide (DMF); acetonitrile; carbocyclic aromatics such as toluene; and t-BuOMe. Preferred are t-BuOMe, CH₂Cl₂, toluene and THF.

Those skilled in the art will recognize that for cyclization of step (d) to proceed as desired, the -OH substituents present in the intermediates of formulas V and VI used in step (c) must be protected prior to cyclization, hence the treatment in step (c) with a hydroxy-protecting group. A key

feature of this process is the surprising stability of the silyl protecting groups on the carbinol and phenol moieties in both step (c) and step (d). In step (c), after the reaction of intermediates V and VI, the reaction is quenched with acid, preferably acetic acid and aqueous tartaric acid: the resulting solution has a pH <1. Under these conditions, one would not predict that the disilylated compound of formula VII (containing a silylated phenolic group) would be stable, but surprisingly the compound is stable and can be isolated for use in the next step of the process. Also, in step (d) of the process of the invention, out of the three silylated groups (i.e., the two hydroxy groups silylated in step (c) and the -NH- group silylated in the first part of step (d)), the -N-Si- group is selectively desilylated, allowing the intramolecular cyclization to proceed efficiently. This was unpredictable, especially in view of the presence of a silylated phenol group.

The following example illustrates the process of this invention.

15 Step (a):



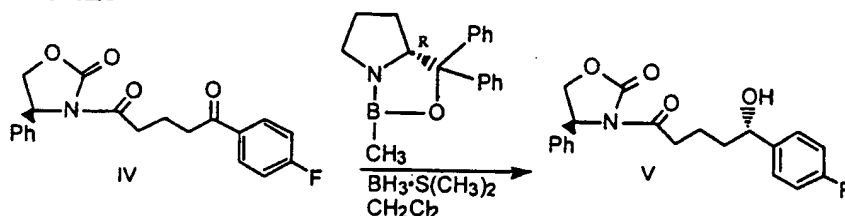
Equip a 3-necked 500 mL round bottom flask with a thermometer, an addition funnel and a nitrogen inlet. Add p-fluoro-benzoylbutyric acid (20 g, 95.15 mmol), CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL) and TEA (23 mL, 165 mmol) and agitate the mixture at room temperature for 5 min. Add trimethylacetyl chloride (11.3 mL, 91.75 mmol) slowly over a period of 30 min. Check for complete formation of mixed anhydride by NMR.

Add the compound of formula III (10 g, 61.3 mmol), DMAP (1.6 g, 13 mmol) and dry DMF (10 mL) and heat the mixture at reflux for about 7 h or until the reaction is complete (<3% compound III) by NMR. Cool to room temperature, transfer the batch to a flask containing 2N H₂SO₄ (80 mL) slowly with agitation and continue agitation for about 30 min. Separate the layers and wash the organic layer with 5% NaHCO₃ (80 mL).

- 9 -

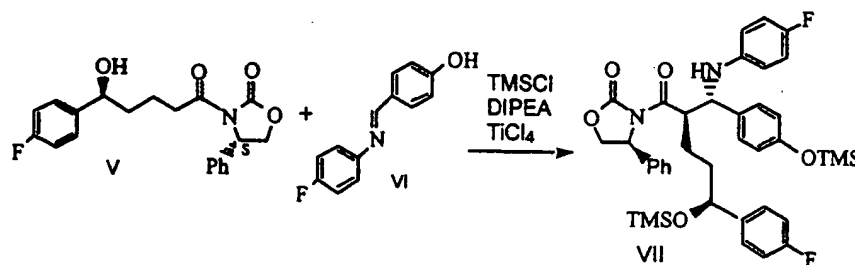
Concentrate the organic layer and crystallize the product from isopropyl alcohol (100 mL), filter and dry. Yield: 20 g (92% molar); mp: 92-94°C.

Step (b):



Equip a 3-necked 250 mL round bottom flask with a thermometer, an addition funnel and a nitrogen inlet. Add dry CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) and neat borane dimethyl sulfide (2.82 mL, 28.2 mmol) and cool the mixture to -5° to 0°C . Add a previously prepared toluene solution of (R)-tetrahydro-1-methyl-3,3-diphenyl-1H,3H-pyrrolo(1,2-c)(1,3,2) oxaza-borolidine (1.4 mL, 1.4 mmol, 5 mole %) to the mixture and stir for 15 min. at $<0^\circ\text{C}$. Add a solution of compound IV (10 g, 28.1 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (30 mL) slowly over a period of 3-4 h and maintain the reaction temperature between -5° to 0°C . Continue stirring for 1 to 2 h or until the reaction complete ($<0.1\%$ compound IV) by NMR. Quench the reaction by slowly adding CH_3OH (4 mL) while maintaining the temperature $<0^\circ\text{C}$. Add 5% hydrogen peroxide (20 mL) followed by 4N H_2SO_4 (1.5 mL). Agitate the mixture for 15 min., separate the organic layer and wash with 2N H_2SO_4 (20 mL), 5% Na_2SO_3 (50 mL) and 10% NaCl (50 mL). Concentrate the organic layer to a low volume until water content is $<0.05\%$. The product is used directly in the next step. Solution yield: $>95\%$; de: 98%.

Step (c):

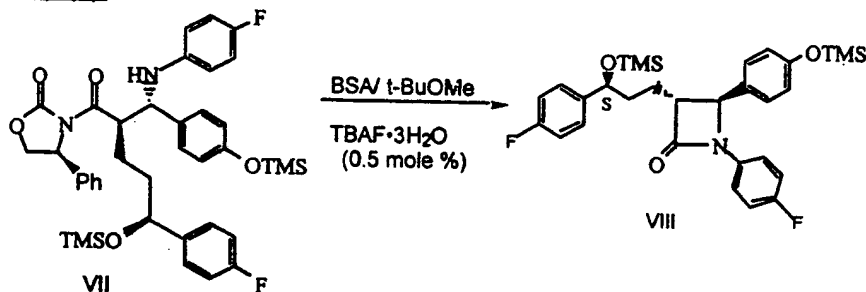


Equip a 3-necked 500 mL round bottom flask with a thermometer, an addition funnel and a nitrogen inlet. Add the CH_2Cl_2 solution of compound V (10 g equivalent of compound IV, 28.1 mmol) from step (b) and compound VI (12.05 g) and adjust the total volume of the reaction

- 10 -

5 mixture to 150 mL with dry CH_2Cl_2 . Cool the mixture to -10°C and add slowly DIPEA (25.7 mL, 147.5 mmol) and maintain the temperature at $< -5^\circ\text{C}$. Add TMSCl (13.5 mL, 92.3 mmol) over a period of 30 min. while maintaining the reaction temperature $< -5^\circ\text{C}$. Agitate the reaction for 1 h or
10 until the silylation is judged complete by NMR. Lower the reaction temperature to -25 to -30°C . Add TiCl_4 (3.4 mL, 30.8 mmol) slowly and maintain the temperature $< -25^\circ\text{C}$. Agitate the reaction for 3 h at $< -25^\circ\text{C}$ and check the reaction completion by NMR. Add glacial acetic acid (8 mL) slowly to the reaction mixture while maintaining the reaction temperature
15 between -25 and -30°C . Pour the reaction mixture into 7% aqueous tartaric acid solution (140 mL) at 0°C , agitate for 1-2 h, and allow the temperature to gradually rise to room temperature. Add 20% aqueous NaHSO_3 solution (50 mL) and continue agitation for another 2 h. Separate the organic layer and wash with water (120 mL). Concentrate the organic layer to a low
20 volume and add bistrimethylsilyl acetamide (8.4 mL) and heat the mixture to reflux for 30 min. Concentrate the mixture to remove CH_2Cl_2 and crystallize the product from an ethyl acetate and heptane mixture, filter, wash and dry to give 13 g (65% molar yield from compound IV) of compound VII.

20 Step (d):



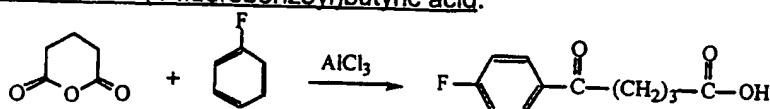
Equip a 3-necked 500 mL round bottom flask with a thermometer, an addition funnel and a nitrogen inlet. Add compound VII (50 g, 69.7 mmol), tetrabutylammonium fluoride trihydrate (0.1 g, 0.32 mmol),
25 bistrimethyl acetamide (30 mL) and t-butylmethyl ether (500 mL). Stir the mixture at room temperature for 2 h or until the reaction is judged complete by NMR. Add glacial acetic acid (2.5 mL) and concentrate the reaction mixture to an oil under vacuum.

Step (e):

5 Add a premixed solution of isopropyl alcohol (250 mL) and 2N H_2SO_4 (25 mL) to the product of step (d) and agitate the mixture at room temperature for 1 h. Crystallize compound I from aqueous isopropyl alcohol. Filter the product and wash with dilute aqueous isopropyl alcohol followed by water until the pH of wash is <5. Dry the product at 60°C in a draft oven or under vacuum to give 26.14 g (91.5% molar yield) of compound I.

Starting materials for the claimed process are made by the following typical procedures.

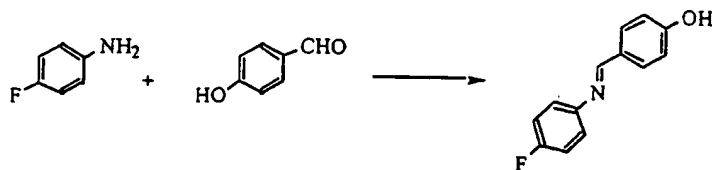
10 Preparation of 4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)butyric acid:



Charge 250 g of anhydrous AlCl_3 (1.87 moles) to a 2 L 3-neck round bottom flask, add 300 mL fluorobenzene (307.5 g; 3.2 moles) and cool the mixture in an ice bath to 5°C. Add a hazy suspension of 100 g
15 glutaric anhydride (0.86 mole) in 400 mL fluorobenzene (4.3 moles) through an addition funnel over a period of 45 min., and maintain the temperature below 12°C. Warm the reaction mixture to ambient temperature gradually and agitate at r.t. for about 90 min.; check for completion by NMR. Cool the reaction mixture to 0 to 5°C, then add a
20 cold aqueous solution (700 mL) of 1N HCl carefully to the mixture to destroy any unreacted AlCl_3 , keeping the temperature of the mixture below 20°C during the early part of the acid addition, and below 40°C for the rest of the time. Pour the entire mixture into a 2 L 1:1 mixture of water and ice (v/w) to precipitate out crude products, filter the white suspension and wash well with water. Add the white residue to 3 L of aqueous
25 saturated solution (~5%) of NaHCO_3 , heat the basic mixture on a steam bath for one hour and filter the batch while hot through a thin pad of celite. Cool the filtrate to r.t., add about 320 mL of concentrated HCl dropwise into the filtrate to pH 1 to crystallize out products, and agitate the white
30 suspension in an ice bath for 30 min. Filter the batch, wash the wet cake with ice cold water and dry in a vacuum oven at 50°C for 16 h to obtain 143.2 g of 4-(4-fluorobenzoyl)-butyric acid; m.p. 141 to 142°C, isolated yield: 79.3%.

Preparation of Imine:

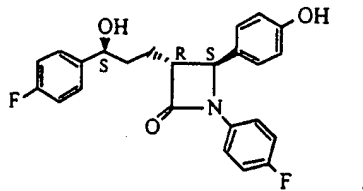
- 12 -



- Equip a three necked 1L flask with a mechanical stirrer, thermometer and an addition funnel. Add 480 mL of isopropanol, 144 g (1.18 moles) of p-hydroxybenzaldehyde (endothermic) and agitate the mixture while heating to a temperature of 50°C. Agitate the mixture at 50°C for 15 min (making sure all the material is in solution), then add 114 mL (1.2 moles) of p-fluoroaniline slowly via the addition funnel (exothermic reaction). After the addition is complete, agitate the thick slurry for 1hr at 50°C, cool to r.t. and agitate for 30 min. Filter the product, wash the cake with 150 mL of isopropanol, dry the wet cake in a draft oven at 50°C for 24 h or until dry to yield 222 g of the imine (88%); mp: 180-182°C

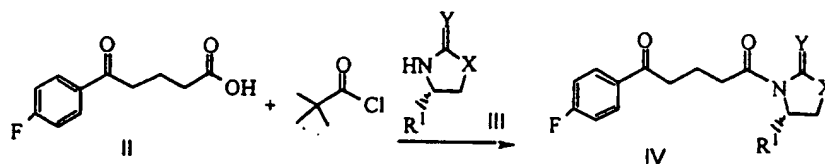
We claim:

1. A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula



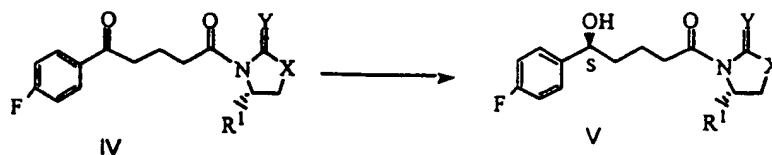
- 5 comprising:

(a) reacting p-fluorobenzoylbutyric acid of formula II with pivaloyl chloride and acylating the product with a chiral auxiliary of formula III to obtain a ketone of formula IV:



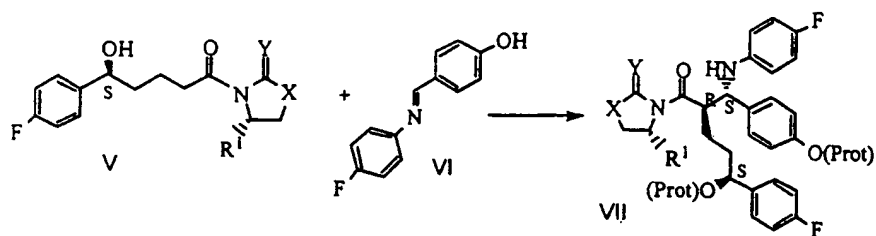
- 10 wherein X is -O-, -S- or -N(C₁-C₆ alkyl); Y is =O or =S; and R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, substituted phenyl, substituted naphthyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl or benzyl, wherein the substituents on phenyl and naphthyl are 1-3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl and benzyl;

- 15 (b) reducing the ketone of formula IV in the presence of a chiral catalyst to an alcohol of formula V:

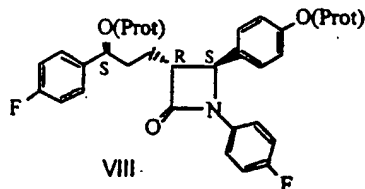


- (c) reacting the chiral alcohol of formula V, an imine of formula VI and a silyl protecting agent, then condensing the silyl-protected compounds to obtain a β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII, wherein Prot is a silyl protecting group:

- 14 -



- (d) cyclizing the β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII with
- (i) a silylating agent and a fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent;
 - (ii) a silylating agent and a quaternary ammonium salt of a chiral auxiliary of formula III; or
 - (iii) a strong non-nucleophilic base;
- to obtain the compound of formula VIII:

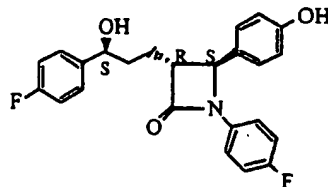


- (e) removing the silyl protecting groups.

10

2. The process of claim 1 wherein in step (a), the chiral auxiliary is (4S)-4-phenyl-2-oxazolidinone; in step (b) the chiral catalyst is (R)-tetrahydro-1-methyl-3,3-diphenyl-1H,3H-pyrrolo(1,2-c)(1,3,2) oxazaborolidine; in step (c) the silyl protecting agent is chlorotrimethylsilane, the Lewis acid is TiCl_4 and the tertiary amine is diisopropylethylamine; and in
- 15 step (d) the silylating agent is bistrimethylsilyl acetamide and the fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent is tetrabutylammonium fluoride trihydrate.

3. A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula



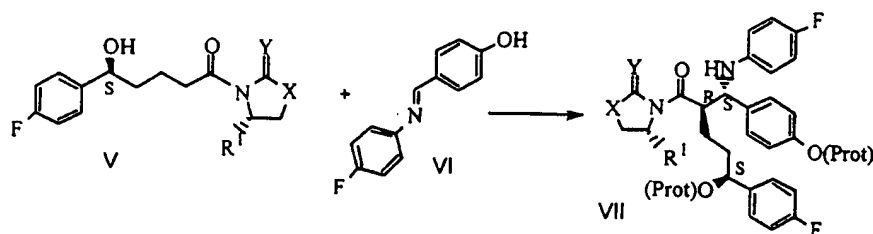
20

comprising:

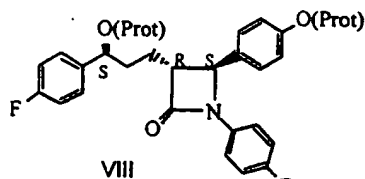
reacting a chiral alcohol of formula V, an imine of formula VI and a silyl protecting agent, then condensing the silyl-protected compounds to obtain a β -(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII, wherein X is -O-, -S- or

- 15 -

- N(C₁-C₆ alkyl); Y is =O or =S; and R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, substituted phenyl, substituted naphthyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxycarbonyl or benzyl, wherein the substituents on phenyl and naphthyl are 1-3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl and benzyl; and
 5 wherein Prot is a silyl protecting group:



cyclizing the β-(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII with a silylating agent and a fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent to obtain the compound of formula VIII:

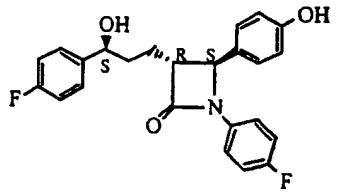


10

removing the silyl protecting groups. ; and

4. A process of claim 3 wherein the the silyl protecting agent is chlorotrimethylsilane; the condensation is effected with a Lewis acid in the presence of a tertiary amine; and the silylating agent is bistrimethylsilyl acetamide and the fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent is tetrabutylammonium fluoride trihydrate.
- 15

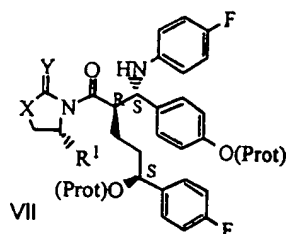
5. A process for preparing a compound represented by the formula



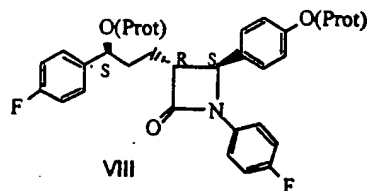
20

comprising cyclizing a β-(substituted-amino)amide of formula VII,

- 16 -



- wherein X is -O-, -S- or -N(C₁-C₆ alkyl); Y is =O or =S; and R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, substituted phenyl, substituted naphthyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl or benzyl, wherein the substituents on phenyl and naphthyl are 1-3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl and benzyl; and wherein Prot is a silyl protecting group, with a silylating agent and a fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent to obtain the compound of formula VIII:

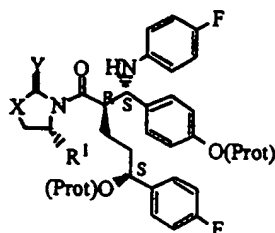


; and

- (e) removing the silyl protecting groups.

6. A process of claim 5 wherein the silylating agent is bistrimethylsilyl acetamide and the fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent is tetrabutylammonium fluoride trihydrate.

7. A process for preparing a β -(substituted-amino)amide of the formula

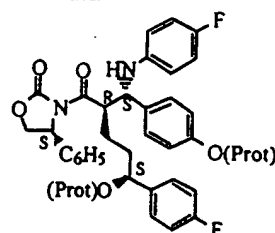


wherein X is -O-, -S- or -N(C₁-C₆ alkyl); Y is =O or =S; and R¹ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, phenyl, naphthyl, substituted phenyl, substituted naphthyl, C₁-C₆ alkoxy carbonyl or benzyl, wherein the substituents on phenyl and naphthyl are 1-3 substituents selected from the group consisting of C₁-C₆ alkyl,

phenyl and benzyl; and wherein Prot is as defined above, with a silylating agent and a fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent.

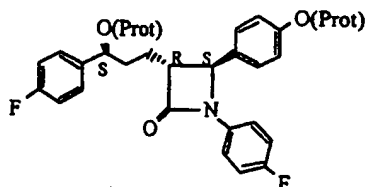
10. A process of claim 9 wherein the silylating agent is bistrimethylsilyl acetamide and the fluoride ion catalyst cyclizing agent is tetrabutylammonium fluoride trihydrate.

11. A compound of the formula



- 10 wherein Prot is a silyl protecting group.

12. A compound of the formula



wherein Prot is a silyl protecting group.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat. Application No
PCT/US 99/27914

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C07D205/08

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 97 16424 A (SCHERING CORPORATION) 9 May 1997 (1997-05-09) the whole document	1
Y	US 5 767 115 A (STUART B. ROSENBLUM ET AL.) 16 June 1998 (1998-06-16) cited in the application the whole document	1
Y	US 5 739 321 A (GUANG-ZHONG WU ET AL.) 14 April 1998 (1998-04-14) cited in the application the whole document	1
	-/-	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document relating to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"Z" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

4 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

10/04/2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5516 Patentplan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 051 epo nl,
Fax. (+31-70) 340-3018

Authorized officer

Kyriakakou, G

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/US 99/27914

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5 728 827 A (TIRUVETTIPURAM KANNAPAN THIRUVENGADAM ET AL.) 17 March 1998 (1998-03-17) cited in the application the whole document	1
Y	US 5 561 227 A (TIRUVETTIPURAM K. THIRUVENGADAM ET AL.) 1 October 1996 (1996-10-01) cited in the application the whole document	1
Y	US 5 631 365 A (STUART B. ROSENBLUM ET AL.) 20 May 1997 (1997-05-20) cited in the application the whole document	1

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internal / Application No

PCT/US 99/27914

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 9716424	A	09-05-1997	AU 7472896	A	22-05-1997
			US 5856473	A	05-01-1999
US 5767115	A	16-06-1998	US 5631365	A	20-05-1997
			US 5846966	A	08-12-1998
			AT 180249	T	15-06-1999
			AU 681445	B	28-08-1997
			AU 7795294	A	10-04-1995
			CN 1131416	A	18-09-1996
			CZ 9600839	A	14-08-1996
			DE 69418613	D	24-06-1999
			DE 69418613	T	30-09-1999
			EP 0720599	A	10-07-1996
			ES 2132432	T	16-08-1999
			FI 961300	A	21-03-1996
			GR 3030312	T	30-09-1999
			HU 73852	A	30-09-1996
			JP 2803908	B	24-09-1998
			JP 8509989	T	22-10-1996
			KR 186853	B	01-05-1999
			NO 961133	A	20-03-1996
			NZ 274041	A	19-12-1997
			PL 313589	A	08-07-1996
			SG 46208	A	20-02-1998
			SK 35596	A	05-02-1997
			WO 9508532	A	30-03-1997
			ZA 9407086	A	14-03-1995
US 5739321	A	14-04-1998	AU 3299497	A	05-01-1998
			EP 0906278	A	07-04-1999
			JP 11511754	T	12-10-1999
			WO 9745406	A	04-12-1997
US 5728827	A	17-03-1998	AU 681419	B	28-08-1997
			AU 7214694	A	06-02-1995
			CA 2166784	A	19-01-1995
			CN 1126989	A	17-07-1996
			CZ 9600076	A	17-04-1996
			EP 0707567	A	24-04-1996
			FI 960095	A	09-01-1996
			HU 73237	A	29-07-1996
			JP 2840452	B	24-12-1998
			JP 8507085	T	30-07-1996
			KR 176001	B	20-03-1999
			MX 9405152	A	31-01-1995
			NO 960083	A	04-03-1996
			NZ 268798	A	29-01-1997
			PL 312502	A	29-04-1996
			SK 3796	A	05-02-1997
			WO 9501961	A	19-01-1995
US 5561227	A	01-10-1996	US 5306817	A	26-04-1994
			AU 658441	B	13-04-1995
			CZ 9400142	A	13-07-1994
			DE 69222532	D	06-11-1997
			DE 69222532	T	26-02-1998
			EP 0596015	A	11-05-1994
			FI 940296	A	21-01-1994

Form PCT/ISA/210 (patent family annex) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

Internal Application No

PCT/US 99/27914

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5561227 A		JP 6508637 T	29-09-1994
		NO 940221 A	21-01-1994
		SK 7994 A	06-07-1994
		US 5688787 A	18-11-1997
		AT 158789 T	15-10-1997
		AU 2398092 A	23-02-1993
		BG 61118 B	29-11-1996
		CA 2114007 A	04-02-1993
		CN 1069024 A	17-02-1993
		EP 0524595 A	27-01-1993
		ES 2107548 T	01-12-1997
		HU 67341 A	28-03-1995
		JP 2525125 B	14-08-1996
		MX 9204327 A	29-07-1994
		NZ 243669 A	22-12-1994
		OA 9878 A	15-09-1994
		WO 9302048 A	04-02-1993
		US 5688785 A	18-11-1994
		ZA 9205487 A	31-03-1993
US 5631365 A	20-05-1997	AT 180249 T	15-06-1999
		AU 681445 B	28-08-1997
		AU 7795294 A	10-04-1995
		CN 1131416 A	18-09-1996
		CZ 9600839 A	14-08-1996
		DE 69418613 D	24-06-1999
		DE 69418613 T	30-09-1999
		EP 0720599 A	10-07-1996
		ES 2132432 T	16-08-1999
		FI 961300 A	21-03-1996
		GR 3030312 T	30-09-1999
		HU 73852 A	30-09-1996
		JP 2803908 B	24-09-1998
		JP 8509989 T	22-10-1996
		KR 186853 B	01-05-1999
		NO 961133 A	20-03-1996
		NZ 274041 A	19-12-1997
		PL 313589 A	08-07-1996
		SG 46208 A	20-02-1998
		SK 35596 A	05-02-1997
		WO 9508532 A	30-03-1995
		US 5767115 A	16-06-1998
		US 5846966 A	08-12-1998
		ZA 9407086 A	14-03-1995

